

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) Method for processing two or more decoded but not yet combined individual audio signals received or replayed from different audio sources, wherein at least two of said decoded audio signals have a different number of channels per decoded audio signal and different channel configurations for channel to speaker mapping, and wherein said decoded audio signals are to be combined by mixing and/or switching before being presented in a final channel configuration, and wherein to each one of said decoded audio signals a corresponding specific channel configuration information item is attached and the channel configuration information items for said two or more decoded audio signals can demand number of channels per decoded audio signal and channel configurations conflicting with each other, said method comprising:

controlling said mixing and/or switching such that in case of non-matching number of channels and non-matching types of channel configurations the number of the channels and the configuration type of the channels to be output following said mixing and/or following said switching is determined by specific mixing and/or switching information provided from a content provider or broadcaster that is embedded in at least one of said audio signals, so as to resolve such conflict, and

attaching to the combined data stream to be presented a correspondingly updated channel configuration information item, wherein said updating of said channel configuration information item is a re-defining of the originally defined channel configuration information item by the content provider or broadcaster.

2. (Previously presented) Method according to claim 1, wherein said bitstream has MPEG-4 format.

3. – 4. (Cancelled)